

**ACCESS CONTROL APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
ELECTRONIC DEVICE**

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

- 5 A switch for power gating is disposed between an electronic device and its power source. The switch is controlled from a biometric reader that asserts a signal to the switch when a biometric profile matches a stored biometric signature. The gating of the power may thereby activate the electronic device. As the electronic device is isolated from its power source pending a successful biometric verification, it is not possible to
- 10 circumvent the access control feature using the resources of the electronic device. Until the biometric reader verifies a biometric profile, the electronic device remains in an unpowered state.

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